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March 15, 2006

PLEASE DELIVER THE ATTACHED MESSAGE TO:Examiner: Michael S. Lowe Phone No.: (571) 272-6929
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From: Brian M. Dugan Registration No. 41,720

Our File No.: Docket No. 7096/SYNX/SYNX/JW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Martin R. Elliott, Robert B. Lowrance,
Michael R. Rice, Jeffrey C. Hudgens
and Eric A. Englhardt

Serial No. : 10/650,479

Filed : August 28, 2003

For : METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPLYING
SUBSTRATES TO A PROCESSING TOOL

Examiner : Michael S. Lowe

Group Art Unit : 3652

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE:

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PATENTS
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Customer No : 41161

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir:

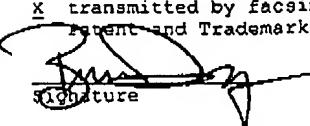
In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated December 15, 2005, applicants amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2.

Ramarks begin on page 9.

Certificate of Mailing/Transmission (37 C.F.R. Section 1.8(a))
 I hereby certify that, on the date shown below, this correspondence is being

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March 15, 2006
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 BRIAN M. DUGAN
 (name of person certifying)